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O 311430Z JUL 08  
FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7123  
INFO RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
RUEKJCS/Joint STAFF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS ASUNCION 000532

SIPDIS

STATE FOR WHA/BSC KBEAMER, WHA/AND, DRL/BA, AND INR/IAA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PHUM MARR MASS PGOV SOCI PINS SNAR PA  
SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS REVIEW - UNITS OF PARAGUAYAN SECURITY  
FORCES

REF: A. 07 STATE 110255

1B. 07 ASUNCION 560  
1C. ASUNCION 400  
1D. 05 STATE 225765  
1E. 03 STATE 3491  
1F. 99 STATE 103806  
1G. 99 STATE 85377

11. Embassy has reviewed its internal files and records in accordance with standardized vetting procedures and finds no derogatory information on the following unit commanders of the Riverine Customs Unit (DETAVE) of the Paraguayan security forces that are intended recipients of U.S. training. This cable requests that the Department re-vet DETAVE Operations Commander Epifanio Gonzalez Lopez, who was previously vetted on August 8, 2007 (refs A and B), and DETAVE Investigations Commander Alejandro Benitez Romero, who has never been vetted. DETAVE is scheduled to participate in a Joint Combined Exercise Training with USSOUTHCOM'S Naval Special Warfare Unit from August 20, 2008, until October 7, 2008 (ref C).

12. Candidate name: Epifanio Gonzalez Lopez

DOB: April 1, 1959  
POB: Isla Yacyreta, Paraguay  
Nationality: Paraguayan

13. Candidate name: Alejandro Benitez Romero

DOB: April 24, 1960  
POB: Asuncion, Paraguay  
Nationality: Paraguayan

14. Embassy requests State Department vetting of the above units (or person) so that the planned training and material support can move forward.

15. POC for this request is Embassy Asuncion Human Rights Officer Michael Edwards, telephone: 011-595-21-213-715, e-mail: edwardsmg@state.gov.

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Cason